



## The First Grade Dolphin Times

Mrs. Messick 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Leaksville-Spray Elementary

September 8 - 12, 2014

<http://mrsmessick.wikispaces.com>



**Spelling Words:** Here are our spelling words for this week! Our story is called Ants. Our spelling test will be on Friday and will cover the ten words below.

red	blue	one	two	big
am	is	and	it	up

**Word Wall Words:** Here are our Word Wall words for this week! These are not spelling words but we would love for your child to learn to recognize them quickly. These words are often used for challenge words on the spelling test. If any of these are used, they will be bonus points only.

make	they	walk	come	down
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### 1<sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks Word Wall Words So Far:

a	the	can	I	my
up	go	am	had	like
make	they	walk	come	down

### Our reading levels for the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks are:

<b>Level A - B</b>	Far Below Grade Level
<b>Level C</b>	Below Grade Level
<b>Levels D - J</b>	On Grade Level
<b>Levels K +</b>	Above Grade Level

**Homework:** We are so happy to see that many of you did so well on homework for the first week of school. Because everyone is so new to first grade, we want to make sure that everyone has a clear understanding of our expectations.

**Spelling:** There are only ten spelling words each week and the first six are usually related to a

sound or word family we are learning. The other four contain two review words and two challenge words. On Monday your child writes these three times each in the notebook. On Tuesday your child puts them in ABC order. An easy way to help first graders to see how this is done is to write them on small pieces of paper or sticky notes and then have them underline the first letter. That helps them easily see how they can put them in order by the alphabet letter at the beginning. On Wednesday your child will choose five of the ten words and write a sentence with each one. On Thursday your child will take a practice spelling test with you to get ready for tomorrow.

**Reading:** We are sending home several books a week. Please have your child do his or her best to read each book to you and make sure you record the book in the reading log. We keep up with books that have been read to earn incentives.

**Writing:** Each week there will be one MClass question related to one of the books that is sent home. The question asks your child to think about the story and respond in writing in the homework book. When a child reaches a level F in MClass assessments, he or she is required to read and write the answer to a MClass question independently to pass that level. We are hoping to help your child become familiar with the format and kinds of questions that he or she might see in the future. At Open House we plan on sharing more information about MClass assessments with you.

**Math:** Your child has a math sheet that contains a week worth of math homework. It has 5 math problems to do each night, and there are also some hundreds board activities on the back. Please make sure your child puts his or her name on the paper before it comes back on Friday.

**Language:** Each week your child will read a story with you and answer some questions about the story. Please make sure your child writes his or her name on the paper before turning it in.

**Conferences:** At Open House on September 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have a conference sign up sheet available. We need to meet with all students between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> week of school. We will begin conferences near the beginning of October, and we would like for you to choose a time that will work for you to come in and discuss your child's progress. We look forward to completing our

assessments and sharing that information with you at our first conference.

## Don't Forget:



**September 24<sup>th</sup>:** Early Release 12:20

**Interim Reports:** Students who are below level will be receiving an interim report on Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Most of our formal assessments will be completed by that date, and teachers will use classroom observations and informal data.

**T-Shirt Money:** Each year the students buy T-shirts. The design is different this year than last year. The price of the T-shirts this year is going to be \$6.00. Adults may also purchase shirts if they would like for \$6.00. 2XL are \$9. Please turn in the \$6.00 for your child's T-shirt as soon as possible. We really want every child to wear this on our first field trip.

**Book Orders:** Our first book order will be placed this Wednesday. You can order online or send a check or cash into the classroom. If you send in a check please make it out to scholastic. Please remember to turn in orders by Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Please encourage your child to read, read, read by buying him or her a good book!

**Volunteer Training September 11<sup>th</sup>:** If you are interested in volunteering at our school, please plan on coming to one of the training sessions at either 8:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m.

**Fall Picture Day:** October 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Teacher Workday:** October 8<sup>th</sup>

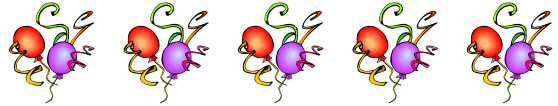
**1<sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks Ends:** The 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks end on October 28<sup>th</sup>

**Field Trip:** Every year, we get to take two field trips in the First Grade. Our first field trip is set for October 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be leaving soon after school starts and driving to Lazy 5 Ranch for the day. We will not be returning until 4:00 p.m. that day, so you will need someone to pick up your child at that time. We welcome you to go if you want to follow the buses and be a part of the trip, but it is a county wide policy that no siblings are allowed to attend. Look for a permission slip, price of the trip, and more information to come your way very soon!

**October 16<sup>th</sup>:** K- 2 Curriculum Night 5:30 p.m.

**Newsletter:** *After this week I will no longer send*

*a newsletter home each week. You will be able to access it though my website. We have to conserve paper due to our school budget and I found that this is the best way. I need to save copies for things we need the students to complete in class. I am sorry if this is an inconvenience. To get to the newsletter just go to Leaksville Sprays home paper and find my name under classroom. Click on that and it should take you to my website.*



## Happy Birthday to YOU!

### August Birthdays

2- Mackenzie

5- Jo'Vanni

7- Briana

10- Alexis

### September Birthdays

7- Manuel

10- Cameron

13- Dylan

**Wish List:** If you can provide any of these needed items for our classroom, please do so. Thanks for all your help!

- box of cinnamon graham crackers
- neon index cards, 3 X 5 size